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Making Memories.....

Marianne and Allen Skatvold hosted a barn dance in the historic Hoffman/Skatvold barn on September 18. The barn received a fresh coat of paint over the summer as well as a good clean-out by the Skatvolds. Music was provided by Mogen's Heroes for our dancing pleasure. There was also a food truck on site for those who missed supper. We attended along with two of our granddaughters, Lily and Violet. The girls were most impressed by the barn and the idea of a barn dance.



A little bit of dancing and a lot of visiting with neighbors and friends made for a very enjoyable evening. Seven-year old Violet had her own "Cinderella" moment. She wore her new Princess shoes and they began to hurt her feet so she removed them. We were half-way home when she realized she had left her shoes! Allen retrieved and returned Cinderella's shoes. But who invited the mosquitoes??



Just Like Grandma
 What's In Your Root Cellar?
 Page 2-3

Fairchild Farmgirl
 Congratulations!
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Gary Happenings
 Pictures, Lots of Pictures
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Treat the earth well

Doing rather than acquiring - how to reduce your footprint on the earth. Modern day homesteaders share a desire to remove themselves from consumerism and to lead a more sustainable life. This lifestyle includes producing and preserving one's own food, making organic cleaning and cosmetic products and medicines, and living a sustainable lifestyle. Shopping locally, bartering, sharing knowledge and working together to help everyone to succeed are part of the community involvement of this movement. Some homesteaders aim to reduce and avoid debt by living frugally and making better choices with their money. The modern-day homesteading movement really caught on during the Covid pandemic. Grocery shelves were lacking and prices rose for what was available. Many needed services were not available due to mandatory closures of businesses. People learned to take care of themselves on their own. They learned to fix and repair as well as to build whatever they needed.



How does one start to become a modern-day homesteader? Wherever you live, you can start to homestead - an apartment in the city, or a home in the suburbs or an acreage in the country. Start by learning to cook and bake from scratch, and to preserve local foods. These foods can be raised in a garden, in patio pots or purchased at a farmers' market. Chickens for fresh eggs or meat can be raised in the backyard or on an acreage. If you have the space on an acreage, you

may have room for a dairy goat or meat rabbits. Or not- however far you wish to go with homesteading is your choice.

Embrace new technology such as solar panels, greenhouses, and dehydrators. New gardening systems and ways to conserve water such as rain collection barrels will reduce your footprint on the earth. You can learn most any new skill from gardening to canning to carpentry to butchering by taking classes or watching available videos.

In the past, you may have purchased things you needed or hired someone to do things that you are not able to - modern homesteaders now try to learn how to make and do for themselves. Learn to build and repair needed items rather than purchasing or replacing.

Anything you need to learn can be found online or in a good book. Libraries are free and include internet access.



The benefits of homesteading are many. Improved nutrition from fresh, home-grown foods and increased outdoor activity equals a healthier lifestyle. Reducing reliance on retail stores for food, clothing and other products equate to financial savings. Making choices that lessen your carbon footprint and promote a healthier planet makes for a consciousness of the environment we live in. Reducing waste, recycling, up-cycling, and composting what you can all make for a more sustainable lifestyle. Reconnecting with natural cycles and processes can reduce the anxieties of modern life as can avoiding personal debt. Think of where we spend our dollars and think of ways to reduce that spending. Grocery prices are rising, and gardens can ease that burden. Thrift stores are an option for clothing and household items. Make your own laundry soap and save hundreds of dollars a



year.

Is this all very much like the early settlers in our area? Of course, they could order most anything to be brought in on the train - if they had the money. The first few years on a homestead claim were usually not very profitable. Freshly broken sod doesn't produce big yields, and they didn't have many acres under cultivation in the first years.



I think living in homes built of sod or logs was a necessity in the early years of our community. The homesteaders often didn't have the means to build a house from purchased lumber. What goes around, comes around. We are back to the beginning where we must live within our means, not within however much we can borrow. Today's grain markets are not profitable, and most crops went into the bins this fall so money may be a bit tight this winter. We may all need to become modern-day homesteaders.

Contributed by Patti Haas



Fairchild Farmgirl

Tomorrow is the big day. Ashlyn gets married. The fact that these kids are old enough to do that is crazy to me. I mean truthfully, it seems like it was her and I against the world, living in south of the cities in the small town of Veseli.

Picture it, (as Sophia would say on the Golden Girls) a young girl living with her mother in a quiet house on main street, in a town that would take 5 minutes to walk end to end. Seriously though we had some great times, as poor as I was, lol. After all I wonder to this day if I was the one that invented “paycheck to paycheck” lifestyle. I kid, but truthfully, we were broke.

Once a month we would go do something fun that we could afford. Sometimes it was going to a bigger town and watching a movie at the theater on cheap nights, or we’d go to the truck stop and order pancakes and ask the waitress to light a candle if she had one.

The rest of the month we’d do other stuff, like go for bike rides or walks and pick up trash alongside the road and talk about the environment (because sometimes you need to be inventive when you don’t have a dime to your name). Of course we’d play hopscotch in the church parking lot, go sliding in the winter or watch cartoons. Can you tell I miss that little girl?

My biggest dream for my kids is that they are happy adults and that if they choose to get married they are with a person that’s good to them. I think Jarod is the perfect match for Ashlyn. They dream together, laugh together and take care of each other. It makes my heart happy, and I pray that they will have a lifetime of happiness.

The fact that their wedding is outside, makes me also thankful for the clear skies we’ll be having. They are super unconventional about their wedding which I think is going to be a blast. They’re getting married on Ashlyn’s late grandpa’s farm with only a few friends and all her siblings and mom’s and dads.

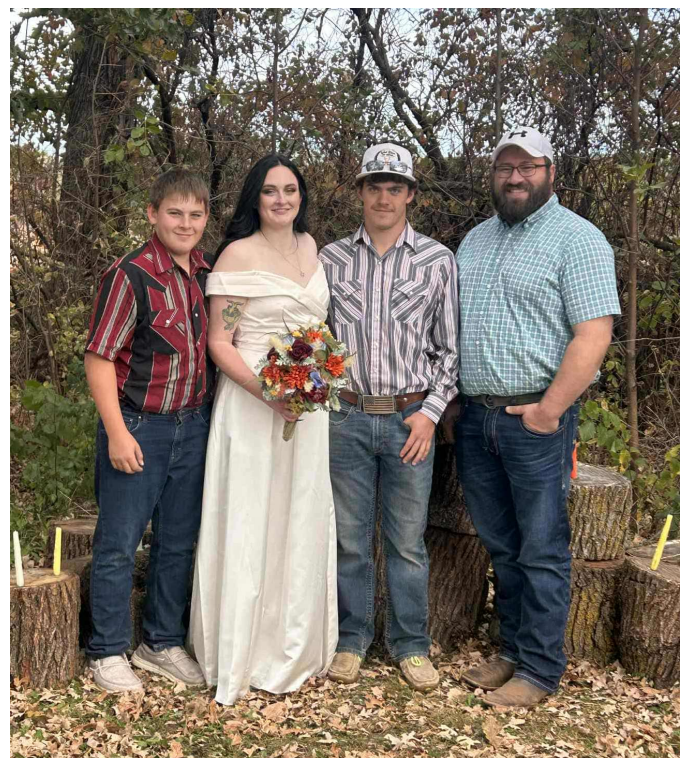
I asked her the other day if she had someone make her a cake, to that she replied, “no, were just having brownies.” After the meal were going to stay for a bonfire, since there is no dance, and then go home tomorrow night.

I can’t wait to see my first born being walked by her dad and brought to Jarod. She’s going to be a beautiful bride...even though she’s still a four year old and we’re eating pancakes by candlelight.

Congrats Ashlyn and Jarod,

Until next time,

Fairchild “love is a beautiful thing” Farmgirl



A Look Back...

100 years ago, October 1925

- ≡ 74th anniversary of Rebekah Order observed
- ≡ New pump house at foot of Coteau Street is finished
- ≡ John W Lytle breaks leg when thrown from hay rake
- ≡ Gary School has exhibit at Deuel County Fair
- Marriages:
 - Ella Pothoff & James W. Wells
 - Bertha Ranchspice & Ellis Winrow
 - Margaret Beutler & Clifford Nelson
- Births: Girls to Mr. & Mrs. Jack Fritz
 - Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Thomas
- Boy to Mr. & Mrs. Harry Gage
- Death: Mrs. Hailpva DeBoer

75 years ago, October 1950

- ≡ Lois Beauty Shop closes
- ≡ Gary School annual Tiger Days to be held
- ≡ Gary School carnival October 27th
- Death: James McMahon
- Auctions: RB Cochrane - Ted Bressen - Bob Adney

50 years ago, October 1975

- ≡ Buffalo Supper set for October 19th
- ≡ Beth Stuerman & Marlin Lorenzen homecoming queen & king
- ≡ Members Only golf tournament held
- ≡ Halloween party October 31st at Gary Legion Hall
- Births: Girls to Mr. & Mrs. Howard Meyen
 - Mr. & Mrs. Roger Helmbolt

25 years ago, October 2000

- ≡ No Interstate Published

Friday Night Lights

Harvest is definitely in full swing - early in the morning until late at night. Most of the soybean crop is in the bin and corn is now being harvested. One a recent day traveling near Minneota, MN, I saw soybeans being combined, silage corn being chopped, hay being raked and baled, and corn being harvested, as well as a field of round bales of corn stalks already baled. This year has been unique for sure.



The gardens are wrapping up with the last of the tomatoes, pumpkins, and squash. My broccoli has continued to produce throughout the summer and early fall, and the cucumbers are still going. Most gardens have not been very productive with all the rain this summer. We've canned pasta sauce from the tomatoes we were able to harvest, and the jars are all full. Now the apples need to be picked and processed.



Modern Day Homesteaders

Kaylyn and Matt Dwyer and their five children are modern day homesteaders' northeast of Gary. They both grew up doing many of the things they needed to know in order to live as they do. Kaylyn learned carpentry skills as she helped with the building of her parents' home. Later she tackled building a designer chicken coop. On their acreage, they have rebuilt much of their home and still have projects to go. Matt does the framing and electrical and Kaylyn is the finish carpenter. They do their best to avoid debt but when the well failed, there was no choice. Smart financial decisions are crucial.



Dwyers have an organic meat business, raising and marketing beef, pork, and chicken. They raise most of the meat and vegetables their family consumes. Matt and the boys also hunt deer, pheasant, rabbit and squirrel. In the past, they also raised turkeys, meat rabbits and ducks. The family grows a variety of vegetables in the garden and are developing an orchard with

apple, pear, peach, cherry and plum trees. They have a milk cow which supplies the family with raw, organic milk is used for making butter and occasionally mozzarella cheese, as well as fresh drinking. The grocery store runs consist mainly of baking supplies and fruit. Laundry and cleaning products and as well as cosmetic items are created in the family kitchen. Kaylyn studies the use of foods and plants as medicine; the family rarely visits a doctor. They shop at the secondhand stores for clothing and household items they may need. A wood-burning stove heats the home and can also be used for cooking, if needed. Matt has investigated solar and small wind generation units to create their own energy. They find a wealth of information on the internet. YouTube can teach most anything from electrical systems to homemade candles to the medicinal properties of native plants.





What
Have
Those
Crazy
Kids
(and Melinda)
Been Up
To?



The Gary Givers

FUNDRAISER

THURSDAY NIGHTS

at the Gary Liquor Store

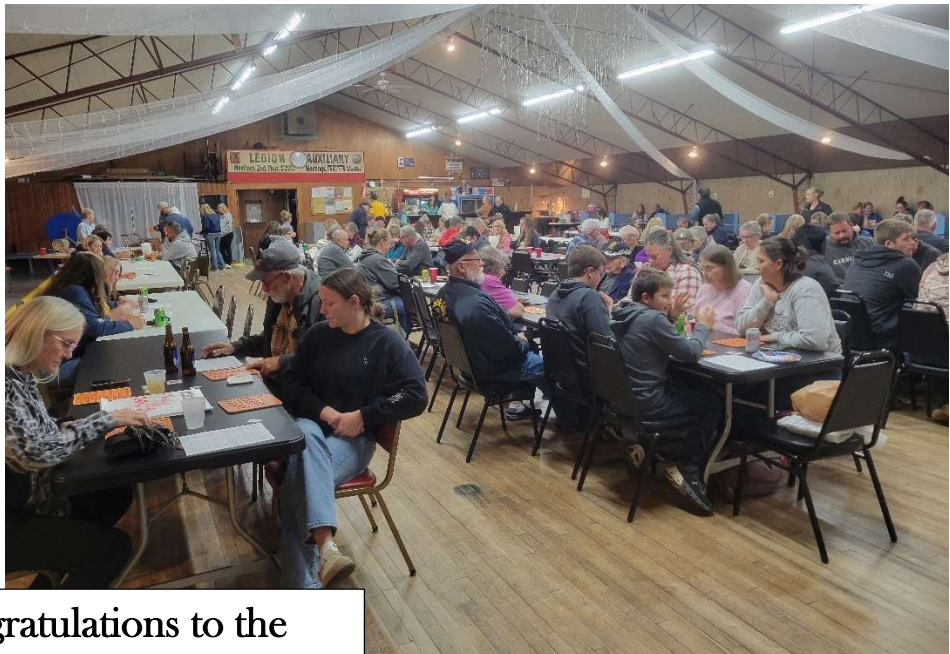
TICKET SALES: 5 P.M. – 7 P.M.

Drawing: 7:15 P.M. – Must be present to win!

** Must be at least 21 years old to participate. **

2 tickets – \$5 ♥ 5 tickets – \$10 ♥ 20 tickets – \$20

American Legion Poultry Party



**Congratulations to the
Legion Raffle Winners**

1st Place \$125 - Richard Hemish

2nd Place \$100 - Sharon Kaiser

3rd Place \$75 - Chad Giese

4th Place \$50 - Rob Deslauriers

5th Place 20lb Turkey - Rex & Lori VanDyke

Congratulations Sharon Kloos for winning
the Bingo Blackout Round



Thank you to the volunteers and
Legion Members who helped!

FOOTBALL SUNDAYS



EVERY SUNDAY

FOOD & DRINKS
DOORS OPEN AT 11:00AM

NFL SUNDAY FOOTBALL WATCH PARTY

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109 SUPPER CLUB

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Sunday
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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www.facebook.com/GateCityGeneral • GateCityGeneral@gmail.com

Junior Auxiliary Penny Pitch



Congratulations to Helen Stoks for winning the Thanksgiving Meal Basket (Donated by Gate City General)



POPCORN!



Liveliest Group - they had fun playing and WINNING at the Wheel (14 total turkeys/hams)



Michael Bruce Evans



Marh 7, 1983 –
September 17, 2025

Michael was born on March 7, 1983, in Willmar, Minnesota, as the youngest son to Bruce and Dolly Evans. He was raised from age 5 in Aberdeen, South Dakota, where he graduated from Aberdeen Central High School in 2001. He went on to earn his Bachelor’s degree from St. Cloud State University in 2006. Michael built a successful and fulfilling career as the General Manager at JL Beers in Burnsville, Minnesota, where he was admired not only for his leadership, but for the laughter and energy he brought to the workplace every day. He worked with the franchise for over 15 years in various locations.

Michael was the kind of person who could light up any room. His storytelling, his quick wit, and his natural ability to make everyone feel welcome made him the heart of every gathering. Whether you’d seen him yesterday or years ago, Michael had a way

of picking up the conversation like no time had passed. Michael was known for his lighthearted spirit, and he often broke the ice with a playful round of rock, paper, scissors —in fact, he represented Minnesota and participated and placed in the top 8 of the National Rock, Paper, Scissors Tournament in Las Vegas in June of 2008.

Family was at the center of Michael’s world. He was a devoted son, a loving brother, and an incredibly proud uncle. He is survived by his mother, Dolly Evans of Aberdeen, SD; his brothers, Terrence (Shannon) Evans, Timothy (Wendy) Evans, and Mark Evans; and his adored nieces and nephews: Tanner, Zachary, Kiana, Troy, Maryn, and Kayden. Also surviving are three uncles, David and Judy Denekamp, Don and Janelle Denekamp, and Paul Shogren, and several cousins. He was preceded in death by his father, Bruce Evans on September 30, 2019, and grandparents Stan and Lila Evans and Jack and Esther Denekamp, maternal aunt Judy Shogren and cousin, David Denekamp, Jr.

Visitation was Thursday, September 25, 2025, followed by a prayer service at Spitzer-Miller Funeral Home, 1111 South Main Street, Aberdeen. Funeral services for Michael were held on Friday, September 26, at Trinity Lutheran Church, with Pastor D.T. Rawerts. His final resting place is with his dad in the Grandview Cemetery of Gary, SD.

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Nov 15th – Smoked Pork Chops
or Rib Eye

Nov 29th – BBQ Ribs

Dec 6th – Prime Rib

Dec 20th – Smoked Pork Chops
or Rib Eye

*Hamburgers also available

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Gary SD Post 109 Supper Club

Gary American Legion Dance Hall

Thomas “Tom” William Stava



September 5, 1958 – October 10, 2025

Thomas "Tom" Stava, age 67, of Gary, SD passed away at his sister's home near Marshall, MN while on hospice care on Friday, October 10, 2025. Arrangements are currently pending and will be announced at a later date.

Thomas William Stava, aka “Uncle Tom,” “Chef Thomas,” or Tom, of Gary, SD, was born on September 5, 1958, in Dawson, MN, to Rhoda and Bill Stava. He died on October 10, 2025, under hospice care in rural Marshall, MN.

Tom grew up in Marietta, MN, graduating from high school in 1977. His childhood was filled with sports activities, mowing lawns for the widowed ladies in Marietta and carousing with his buddies. He attended college at SMSU in Marshall for 3 years majoring in Hotel and Restaurant Management but didn’t finish because he said he “already knew” all that academia could teach him. He went on to work as a chef, primarily for the Marriott corporation for many years, traveling the country to many different states-his favorite was the state of Tennessee. In 2010, he returned to Minnesota, and then relocated to Gary, SD in 2015 where he worked at Buffalo Ridge for several years until his retirement at the age of 62.

He was known for his quick wit, his dry sense of humor, love of sports, politics, anything controversial, and his loyalty to his friends and family. In his later years Tom could be seen driving around Gary in his golfcart, checking out the town and barbecuing for his friends at the Buffalo Ridge campground. He especially loved the 4th of July celebrations!

Tom is survived by his siblings: John Stava (Julie) of NSW Australia, sisters, Katie Stava Keller of Waite Park, MN and Terri Otto (Bill) of Marshall, MN; 7 nieces and 1 nephew and numerous ”grands.”

He is preceded in death by his father William Stava, mother Rhoda Wittenebel, stepdad Jerry Wittnebel, and sister Joan Stava.

Gary Happening

GARY LEGION AUXILIARY & GARY SD COMMUNITY CLUB

KIDS' HALLOWEEN SKELE-BRATION

SAT | **NOVEMBER 1** | 2025

Gary SD American Legion Dance Hall

LEGION PARTY | 5 - 6:15 pm

COSTUME CONTEST

PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST

Judging at 5 pm SHARP!

GAMES, TREATS, FISHING POND

HOT DOGS & LEMONADE

TRAIL of TREATS | 6:30 - 7 pm

at **THE ALiBi**

Contact Tina if you would like to hand out candy! 303-9190

FREE YOUTH DANCE & HAUNTED HOUSE TO FOLLOW AT THE LEGION!

AGES 0 TO 12

HALLOWEEN DANCE AND HAUNTED HOUSE

7-10 PM

18 & UNDER

7-9 PM

GARY, SD

AMERICAN LEGION DANCE HALL

NOV 1 2025

MUSIC BY **JT'S DJ SERVICE**

COSTUME CONTEST PRIZES!!!

FREE ENTRY!

Chaperone required for all youth under 10. Concessions will be available for purchase.

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Museum Membership

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Or email garylegionhall@gmail.com

If you have any story ideas or questions pertaining to the Gary area that could develop into an article, feel free to email them to ghainterstate@gmail.com.